

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, or claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A seal and bearing assembly for receiving and supporting one end portion of a driven rotary shaft, which comprises a housing adapted for removable attachment to an end wall of a receptacle through which the driven shaft passes, bearing and seal subassemblies laterally spaced in said housing and forming a unitary assembly surrounding said shaft and supporting the shaft from the housing adjacent an end extremity of the shaft, a trunnion member surrounding and journaling said housing from a support, said housing having an elongated, arcuate slot type vent opening in a bottom portion thereof, said opening being in general alignment with and in communication with a space between the bearing and seal subassemblies to enable material which passes through the seal assembly from the receptacle to fall through said opening.

2. (Currently Amended) The structure as defined in claim 1, wherein said receptacle is a mortar mixer drum rotatable about the axis of the shaft for dumping, said shaft being a paddle shaft and extending through an aperture in an end wall of the drum, said housing being bolted to said end wall to enable

removal and replacement of the unitary assembly of the housing,
seal subassembly and bearing subassembly with a preassembled
unitary assembly of a housing, bearing subassembly and seal
assembly.

3. (Currently Amended) The structure as defined in claim 1 2, wherein said shaft includes a retaining member removably mounted on ~~the~~ an end thereof remote from ~~the~~ said end wall of said drum for engaging ~~the~~ a bearing of said bearing subassembly, said bearing being a ball bearing having an inner race engaged by the retaining member and an outer race seated against a shoulder in said housing, said housing and trunnion member having cylindrical bearing surfaces enabling rotatable movement of the housing and drum independent of rotation of the paddle shaft.

4. (Currently Amended) The structure as defined in claim 1 3, wherein said housing includes a peripheral outwardly extending shoulder thereon to enable a bearing puller to engage the peripheral shoulder and the end of the shaft to pull the unitary assembly of said housing, seal subassembly and bearing subassembly off the shaft and drum end wall.

5. (Currently Amended) A replacement seal and bearing assembly for receiving and supporting one end of a paddle shaft extending through an aperture in an end wall of a drum of a mortar mixer which comprises a housing, fasteners removably

~~attached to~~ mounting said housing on said drum end wall, bearing and seal subassemblies laterally spaced in said housing and surrounding said shaft and supporting said shaft from the housing adjacent an end extremity of the shaft, and a trunnion member surrounding and journaling said housing from a support, and said housing and said bearing and seal subassemblies being combined into a unitary assembly for removal and replacement of said unitary assembly with a preassembled unitary assembly.

6. (Currently Amended) The structure as defined in claim 5, wherein said housing includes a peripheral wall surrounding and supportingly engaging said bearing subassembly and said seal subassembly to form said unitary assembly, and a peripheral flange engaging an end wall of the mixer drum, ~~and fastening means~~ said bolt fasteners detachably securing ~~the said~~ flange to the end wall of the mixer drum to enable removal of said unitary assembly of the housing, the bearing and seal subassemblies from the end wall of the mixer drum and replacement with a preassembled unitary assembly including a housing, and bearing subassembly and seal subassembly unit.

7. (Currently Amended) The structure as defined in claim 5, wherein said peripheral wall of said housing includes a peripheral outwardly extending shoulder ~~engaging means~~ intermediate the ends of the housing ~~to form a structure~~ engageable for engagement by a conventional bearing puller to

enable axial force to be exerted on said unitary assembly to separate the unitary assembly from the shaft.

8. (Currently Amended) In a mortar mixer, a pivotally supported generally horizontally disposed mixer drum, a rotatably driven paddle shaft extending through drum end walls, an outwardly projecting housing on each end wall rotatably supporting remote ends of said paddle shaft, laterally spaced bearings and seals interposed between the housing and shaft and forming a unitary assembly for rotatably supporting the shaft and forming a seal between the shaft and the housing, said housing including an elongated, arcuate slot type vent opening in a bottom portion thereof communicating with a space between the bearings and seals to discharge material migrating between the shaft and seals to protect the bearings from contamination by ~~the~~ material being mixed in the drum and indicating wear conditions of the seals.

9. (Currently Amended) The structure as defined in claim 8, wherein said housing includes a peripheral flange supported from an end wall of the mixer drum, and fastening means detachably securing said flange on the end wall of the mixer drum to enable removal of said unitary assembly of said housing, bearings and seals from the end wall of the mixer drum thereby enabling replacement of the unitary assembly with a preassembled

unitary assembly of a housing, and seals and bearings assembly
unit.

10. (Currently Amended) The structure as defined in claim 9, wherein said bearings are mounted in a bearing subassembly on said shaft, ~~a~~ an internal shoulder ~~on~~ in said housing engaging said bearing subassembly, said housing including a peripheral outwardly projecting rib intermediate the ends thereof to enable a bearing puller to exert an axial force on said housing and bearing subassembly to separate said bearing subassembly from said shaft.

11. (Currently Amended) The structure as defined in claim 10, wherein said shaft includes a retaining member removably mounted on the end thereof remote from the end wall for engaging the bearing subassembly, said bearing assembly having an inner race engaged by the retaining member and an outer race seated against said shoulder in said housing and ball bearings therebetween. ~~said housing and trunnion member having cylindrical bearing surfaces enabling rotatable movement of the housing and drum independent of rotation of the paddle shaft.~~

12. (Currently Amended) The structure as defined in claim 8, wherein each of said housings is pivotally supported from a supporting trunnion to enable the drum to pivot about the axis of the paddle shaft from a mixing position to a dumping position, said trunnions retaining said housings axially on

supports, said housing and trunnions having cylindrical bearing surfaces enabling rotatable movement of the housings and drum independent of rotation of the paddle shaft.

13. (New) In a mortar mixer, a pivotally supported generally horizontally disposed mixer drum, a rotatably driven paddle shaft extending through drum end walls, an outwardly projecting housing rotatably supporting an end of said paddle shaft from a drum end wall, laterally spaced bearings and seals interposed between the housing and shaft for rotatably supporting the shaft and forming a seal between the shaft and the housing, said housing including an opening in a bottom portion thereof communicating with a space between the bearings and seals to discharge material migrating between the shaft and seals to protect the bearings from contamination by the material being mixed and indicating wear conditions of the seals, said housing including a peripheral flange supported from an end wall of the mixer drum, and fasteners detachably securing said flange on the end wall of the mixer drum to enable removal of said housing, bearings and seals from the end wall of the mixer drum thereby enabling replacement with a preassembled housing, bearings and seals, said bearings being mounted in a bearing subassembly on said shaft, an internal peripheral shoulder on said housing peripherally engaging said bearing subassembly, said housing including a peripheral outwardly projecting rib intermediate the

ends of said housing to enable a bearing puller to exert an axial force on said housing, said internal shoulder on said housing including a peripheral axial surface engaging a peripheral axial surface on said bearing subassembly to separate said bearing subassembly from said shaft by exerting axial force peripherally on said bearing subassembly.